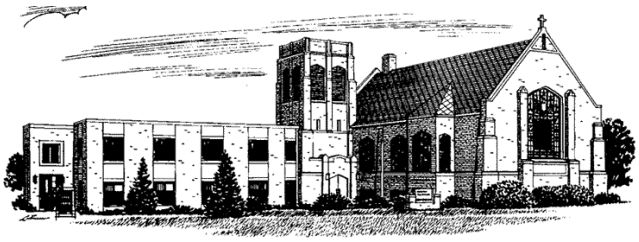


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

October 2014

Create a physical environment that will support our ministry.

That is our vision statement, as it relates to our facilities. Sometimes it is easy to forget that how we present ourselves – Saron's building and grounds – is a sign of hospitality and welcome, as well as a matter of stewardship, how we care for what God has given us.

Saron has an incredible group of volunteers who help watch over, maintain, and make improvements all around – from cleaning the eaves, painting, planting and mowing, to vacuuming, cleaning bathrooms, and much, much, more. They may be here on a Wednesday morning as part of the Golden Hammers, a Saturday, or quite frankly any day in between. The volunteers save Saron a lot of money by doing things we would otherwise have to pay for. But, they also do it out of a sense of care for what God has provided for us, in order to do the ministry God has entrusted to us.

Part of the care of the building is also making needed improvements – for things such as worship and educational purposes, or for keeping the air conditioning and heat in top operational condition. I am grateful for those who pay attention to all the details in making these things happen!

We are all stewards of the building and the grounds. I encourage you to help out where you can and to enjoy all that we've been given!

Pastor Joan

Check out a couple of facility related requests on page 7.

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Chime Choir Director
Email: mroll@saronlutheran.org
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Denise Cook, Financial Secretary

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Ruth Harris** is at Royalton Manor, 288 Peace Blvd Street, St. Joseph, **Ev Maki** is at Caretel; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Dorris Doutt** is at Woodland Terrace, Bridgman and **Eleanor Anderson** at home.

Serving in the military:

Ed Standen – Charleston, SC
Andy Wedde – North Carolina

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9 AM - 11 AM+
Denise (financial secretary): times vary
Call for other times/changes

Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in Octoberr 2014.

Oct. 2- Steve Cook
Judith Wedde
4 –Jim Oleson
Mary Kynast
5 - Thomas Sible
8 - Jonathon Peterson
10 - Hannah Breyen
12 - Andrew Olson
13 – Kerrie Hoodlebrink
14 - Pauline Ngonyani
15 - Elias Coar
16 - Kristine Weber
17 - Savannah Talbert
19 - Robert Baumgartner
20 – Keith Stevens
24 - Matthew Baumgartner
26 - Gary Cowall
29 - Donald Moely
30 – Emily (Weber) Buhnerkempe
31 - Ivan Kiessel

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members in October 2014

Oct. 2 –Steve and Cynthia Schmidt
6 - Robert and Charlene Baumgartner
13 - David and Susan Bailey
Jason and Jessica Crockett
23 – Henry and Pat Breyen

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Ruth Hahn and Ev Maki both celebrated special birthdays.

Addresses Requested

Fall is here, which means some of Saron's young adults are headed off to college! Please let the church office know your child's new address since we know that college kids seem to move a lot!! Thank

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sunday October 5 –
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm 80:7-15 (14, 15)
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday October 12
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23 (5)
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday October 19 –
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] (7)
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday October 26 –
Reformation Sunday
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Psalm 1(2)
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

Prayer

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which will include lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

Flowers for Worship

Flowers can be purchased for worship by signing up on the flower chart in the narthex. Cost is $25. Please write "flowers" on the memo line of your check or on your envelope with cash.

The flowers are ordered through the church office, unless otherwise designated. Please bring back the empty vases to give back to the florist. THANKS!

Learning

book *of* faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

First Communion Instruction

A class for those desiring to take their First Communion will be held yet this Fall. If your child is interested, please contact Pastor.

Adult Inquirer's Class

A gathering for those interested in learning more about the Christian faith from the Lutheran perspective or joining Saron is being planned. If you are interested, please let Pastor know.

Sunday School Teachers!

We are actively looking for more teachers to fill the ranks at Saron's Sunday School. Depending on how many teachers we have, you will teach once or twice per month. We are looking for anyone of adult age that is excited to share the Good News with the children of Saron. The foundational teaching of the Bible will allow children to be as excited about Jesus as our adults are! *Contact Scott Gaspari at scottgaspari@outlook.com if you are interested, or have any questions.*

Thursday Morning Study

The Thursday morning Bible study is studying the Apocrypha. The texts of the Apocrypha are essential reading for filling in the 400-year gap between the Old and New Testaments. A key resource for understanding the New Testament's background, our purchased edition for study includes notes, maps, charts, illustrations, introductions to the books, and an extensive set of articles that will complement your reading of Scripture. The study is at 9:30 a.m. Books (Apocrypha and Study Guide) can be ordered for $40.00. See Pastor or sign up in the narthex.

Men's Weekly Bible Study

All men are invited to our Tuesday Weekly Bible Study at 6:00 p.m. Led by Pastor David Slater, we are exploring Genesis. At 7:00 pm sharp, we end our study and head out to Players for social time accompanied with our own choice of beverage and snacks (or dinner). Come join us to learn more about our faith and to get better acquainted with other men of Saron. Questions? Contact Bob Kynast (269-921-2786; bobkynast@gmail.com or David Slater (269-281-0848; Davidslater102@gmail.com).

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast

Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will be on October 4th, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Gather at Saron for a devotion followed by breakfast at a local restaurant.

Bible Study – Wednesday Mid-day

You are invited to join a study and discussion on the Scripture readings that will be used the following Sunday at worship. Join the conversation on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM.

1st Sunday Book Group

We will be back together on October 5th, 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs lounge to begin another season of good reads and even better discussions. We'll begin that evening with ***The End of Your Life Book Club*** by Will Schwalbe. In this memoir about care giving, love and the joy of reading, Schwalbe gives us a glimpse of how this joy is multiplied when shared with others.

Sunday, November 2nd, same time, same place; we'll tackle ***The Signature of All Things*** by Elizabeth Gilbert. Spanning much of the 18th and 19th centuries, Gilbert's novel follows the fortunes of the Whittaker family, especially the life of daughter, Alma, who is a botanist. The book chronicles "the moment in history when all the old assumptions about science, religion, commerce and class were exploding into new ideas" (Amazon.com).

This story is far too complex to describe in a short review. It needs to be read, digested and discussed. Please join us, bring a friend and be ready for an entertaining evening of sharing ideas and new perspectives. Questions? Call Kathie Bradley (269) 427-7083 or Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354).

Outreach

Saron's next BLOOD DRIVE will be held on October 2 from 2-6pm! Please mark your calendars - the need for blood donors, according to Michigan Blood, is very high. A sign up sheet is posted in the narthex.

Please contact either Keith Stevens or Joyce Marquardt if you have any questions.

S.M.A.R.T. Tutor Program-

Benton Harbor Area Schools are looking for tutors for students, grades 1-8. Last Spring 5 Saron members participated in this program. This is a ONE HOUR a week commitment to help a child become more successful in reading or math. You do not have to be a teacher, just willing to help ONE CHILD , and show that you care! The first session for this year starts the week of Sept. 29 - November 21. The website is S.M.A.R.T. Tutor Program / Overview or call Jan Stevens @4292044 for more information.

School Supplies -

Four Benton Harbor teachers greatly appreciated Saron's generous giving of school supplies! Basic items, such as pencils, crayons, cleaning supplies, and paper will help the teachers create a positive learning environment for their students.
Thank you so much for your kindness, Jan Stevens - and BH elementary teachers, Stephanie, Louise, Kelly and Karin!

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen -

August 28,2014 was a busy day in the BH Soup Kitchen, Saron served 185 people! The following members served our delicious "Ham Dinner" - Drew and Judi Huff, Jan and Keith Stevens, Ruth Ball, Richard and Marlene Schalon, Pastor Joan and Marilyn Klann. Almost 31 DOZEN cookies were baked and served – thanks, bakers :) -Marilyn Frey, Cheryl Houser, Coanne Hohman, Janet Oleson, Judi Huff, Kris Weber and Patty Young.

***** LARGE CANS OF FRUIT ARE NEEDED**

Used Eye Glass Collection

The Lions of St. Joseph Township would like to thank all of the people of Saron for you contribution of glasses to our global mission to assist people to see better. The collection box is still available for all to continue to put old or no longer needed glasses in.

"Remember this is a great way for you house or dwelling to lose a little weight by shedding those unwanted glasses."

Thanks, Keith Stevens

Meet Me at the Freezer

Meals are available for anyone to take to someone who might need one. Enjoying a visit and providing a meal is a wonderful way to tell someone that YOU CARE! The meals are in the freezer in Saron's dining room! If you would like to be involved when we cook again, please contact Jan Stevens @ 429-2044.

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

Women of the ELCA

Each fall Saron Church Women collect **"PERSONAL CARE KITS"** and **"FABRIC KITS"** for Lutheran World Relief which distributes them all over the world, wherever they are needed. We will pass out kit bags beginning **Sunday, SEPTEMBER 14** with the final collection day **Sunday, OCTOBER 5th.** A personal care kit has one dark color bath towel, two bath size bars of soap, one adult size toothbrush, one sturdy comb and one metal nail clipper. A fabric kit has 2-4 yards of cloth and matching thread. Thank you in advance for your generosity in supporting this ministry.

Deborah Circle

Deborah Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Kathy Cowall, 1544 Emerson, St. Joseph. Betty Ross will be the Bible study leader.

WOMEN'S RETREAT NEWS

Our annual women's retreat will be held on **Sat. Oct 4** at Linda Pater's home. Sister Nancy Brousseau will lead our study, "Living in the Presence of God". It will be held from **9:00 am until 3:30 pm**. The cost is $7.00 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We encourage all women of the church to join us for a day of fun and friendship. Feel free to invite visitors. If you have any questions, please call Linda Pater at 468-3303.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

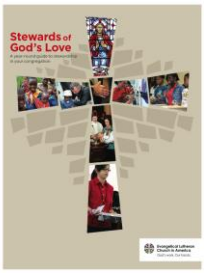
Support

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. And a second is like it. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37b-39



Stewards of God's Love will continue to be our stewardship emphasis throughout 2014-15. "Relationships are what stewardship is all about. There are times of scarcity and abundance in all our lives and stewardship calls us to creatively use God's gifts to follow Jesus' command to love God and our neighbor. Stewardship is … using all that we are and have – time, talent, treasures – in God pleasing ways. Stewardship is the way in which we use all our resources that God has entrusted to our care so that we can love God and our neighbor. **Stewardship is about love."**

www.elca.org/growingstewards, pages 5, 7

Please join us in October and November as we come together to celebrate all that God has given us and then share with others. On November16 we can also enjoy a pancake breakfast served by Saron's men and turn in our commitment sheets for 2015.

November 2	*Our Relationship with God*
November 9	*Our Relationship with Stuff*
November 16	*Relationship with our Neighbor*
	Commitment Sunday
	Pancake Breakfast 9:30-10:30

God's Work. Our Hands.

Council News

Attendance Record	
08/24/2014	*73*
08/31/2014	*65*
09/07/2014	*105*
09/14/2014	*86*
09/21/2014	*92*

Saron's Council Members – 2014

Mary Kynast (428-0148) – President
Dave Bradley (427-70834) – Vice President
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Treasurer
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Secretary, Learning*
Mary Alice Brunner (248-767-9026) – Worship*
Steve Bell (429-0239) – Facilities*
Ken Ark (269-369-4766) – Youth*
Connor Ashley – (269-930-5989) – Youth*
Joyce Marquardt (408-8650) – Support*
Frieda Williams – Hospitality*
Jan Stevens (429-2044) – Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273 office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor

**liaison*

Facilities

GOLDEN HAMMERS NEEDS HELP!

Golden Hammers is a group of volunteers at Saron that meets every Wednesday from 9:30 up to noon. They are women and men that gather to do various jobs in and outside of the church that help keep Saron looking good and also saving the church a considerable amount of money in cleaning and maintenance expenses. The work is not hard - mainly folding bulletins, preparing the monthly newsletter for mailing, preparing the sanctuary for Sunday morning, minor maintenance and cleaning/vacuuming of the church. If you would like to have more information on volunteering please talk to Dennis or Colleen Lundgren , Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

"God's work. Our Hands." Sunday

On September 7, 2014 Saron members painted the LSSM office in Benton Harbor and joined with Holy Trinity, Niles and St. John's, Baroda for a picnic with LSSM foster families in the afternoon.

Sunday School youth sorted donated school supplies for Benton Harbor teachers and confirmation youth helped spread mulch around the church grounds.

On the afternoon of Sunday, October 19, the congregations of St. Paul's Episcopal in St. Joseph, St. Augustine's Episcopal in Benton Harbor, and Saron will be joining together for a fellowship event at St. Augustine's Church. Watch for more details in our bulletin. We look forward to getting to know one another and spending time together!

A COUPLE OF REQUESTS

Is your group using the building? Please make sure you are placed on the church calendar. As the building gets used more and more we need to make sure that we don't have conflicts regarding space. Requests for building use will be processed through the church office.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

Also….

Help us be good neighbors! If you are taking out the garbage at Saron, please make sure it gets into Saron's garbage can next to our "out building" near the alley and not in one of our neighbor's garbage cans. And if the garbage can is full, place the plastic bag next to the garbage can or if you have the ability to take it home, we invite you to do so. This includes recyclables. Thank you so much!

WINTER COATS

The Women's Service League will again be collecting slightly used coats at Saron. Watch for the collection box to arrive by the front doors.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 5 8:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Marilyn Frey
Reader/Com.Assist: Sue Rood
Acolyte: Jenna Henderson
Ushers: John Olson and Steve Bell
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 12 8:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Sue Rood
Reader Intinction: Brandon Burrow
Acolytes: Brandon Burrow
Ushers: Keith Stevens and Allen Snyder
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 19 8:30 a.m.
Assisting Minster: Wendy King
Reader/Com. Assist: Marilyn Frey
Ushers: Walt and Sally Schmuhl
Acolyte: Jenna Henderson
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 26 8:30 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Eric Standen
Reader/Intinction: Dana Riley
Ushers: John and Kerri Hoodlebrink
Acolyte: Carter Hohman
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Thank you for your willingness to serve. If a conflict arises for your scheduled time, please find a replacement or change with another volunteer.

Calling the church office (983-1273) to alert us to changes will help us keep the bulletin as accurate as possible and know that everyone is in place on a Sunday morning.

Oct. 5 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Colleen Lundgren
Reader/Com. Assist: Bob Kynast
Acolyte: Meredith Gacek
Ushers: Andy and Joyce Marquardt
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Marilyn Klann
Building Closing: Bruce Huff

Oct. 12 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Dennis Lundgren
Reader Intinction: Dan Fortenbacher
Acolytes: Colin Ashley
Ushers: Dave and Sue Bailey
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Marilyn Lucy
Building Closing; Colleen and Dennis Lundgren

Oct. 19 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minster: Connor Ashley
Reader/Com. Assist: Laurel Gacek
Ushers: David and Patty Young
Acolyte: Grant Gacek
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Krin Jurgensen
Building Closing:

Oct. 26 11:00 a.m.
Assisting Minister: Denise Cook
Reader/Intinction: Brian Culverhouse
Ushers: Ken Ark and Austin Kamala
Acolyte: Drew Huff
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Betty Appel
Building Closing: Ken Ark

Vision Statements:

Facilities
Create a physical environment that will support our ministry
Hospitality – Inclusivity and Welcoming
Offer for all, Christ's radical hospitality.
Worship
Provide enhanced relevant worship experiences.
Outreach
Serve our community with 100% participation of those who worship at Saron.
Youth
Strive to encourage each of our youth to grow into their unique potential for a Christ centered life.
Learning
Center our lives in Christ through life-long learning

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October 2014

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Reformation Service -
October 26, 2014

Dedication of Bells

Thanks to the generosity of many, a 3-octave set of Malmark Bells have been purchased and will be dedicated on this day and played for the first time.

OCTOBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	Novemeber S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 p.m. Bible Study	2 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 2-6:00 p.m. Blood Drive 6:00 p.m. Chimes 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	3	4 9:00 a.m. Men's Devotion/Breakfast 9:00 a.m.Women's Retreat at Linda Pater's home
5 Holy Com./Children Ser *17th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes 6:30 p.m. 1st Book Group Club starts.	6 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	7 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	8 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle	9 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chimes 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	10	11
12 Intinction /Children Ser *18th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes	13 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles Due	14 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Support Committee	15 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 p.m. Bible Study	16 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chimes 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	17	18
19 Holy Com./Child. Ser. *19th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes 3:00pm Fall Festival - at St. Augustine's Episcopal	20 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m Saron Council Meeting	21 3:30 p.m. Vasa Meeting at Saron 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	22 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Church Women Executive Board Meeting	23 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chimes 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	24 Wedding Rehearsal	25 Wedding
26 Intinction /Children Ser *Reformation Sunday* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes	27 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	28 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	29 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 p.m. Bible Study	30 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chimes 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	31	